

# CULTURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES

## Expanding the Historical Commission's Role in Planning

**10** **Expanding Historical Commission's Role:**  
2010: The Town Planner's job description was expanded to provide policy support to the Historical Commission on an "as needed" basis.

**88** **Hire a Part-Time Preservation Planner:**  
The Town has dedicated \$39,600 of CPC funds to hire a preservation consultant who will serve as a resource to the Commission, including advancing one or more of Master Plan goals such as:

**14** Complete a comprehensive cultural resource inventory.

**74** Inventory historic homes and other buildings that may not lie within current National Register districts.

**86** Work with neighborhood groups to encourage pride in ownership of historical property.

**87** Consider collaborating with one or more neighboring towns to establish regional preservation capacity.

**89** Create incentives for maintenance and/or improvements to historical structures.

**93** Consider Neighborhood Conservation Districts in Westford's villages.

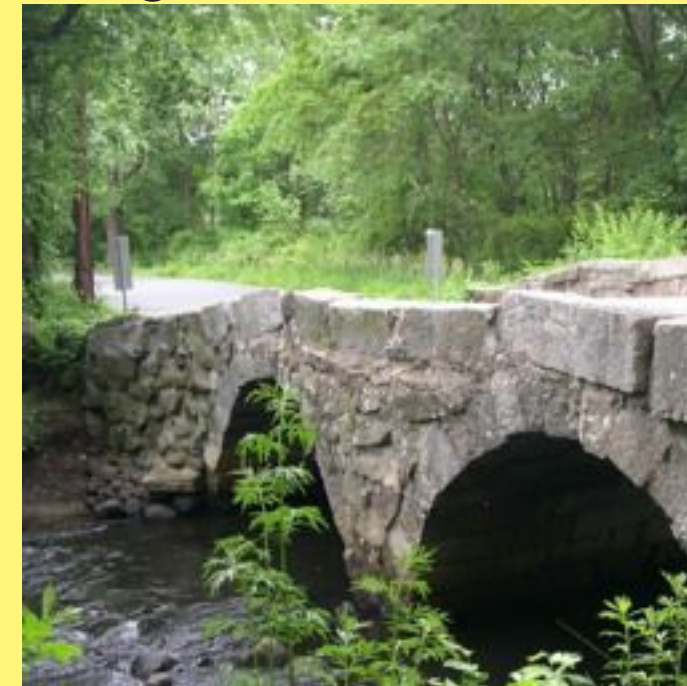
**112** Seek grants as well as CPC funds.

The Historical Commission is working with the Director of Land Use Management to finalize the work scope and advertise this consulting contract.



## Protecting Critical Properties and Scenic Roads

**56** **Inventory Scenic Roads:**  
2011: Land Use, Building, and IT Depts created auto-response e-mail to all applicants for permits on Designated Scenic Roads, informing applicants that a separate permit is needed for altering stone walls or trees within the right-of-way and alerting appropriate staff. In 2012, more than 100 such e-mails have been sent to date, ensuring that applicants comply with this important bylaw.



2011: To improve familiarity with and enforcement of the Scenic Roads Bylaw, the Historical Commission created an improved webpage with photos and information. Find it on their webpage.

### Protect Critical Properties, Preserve Historic Structures:

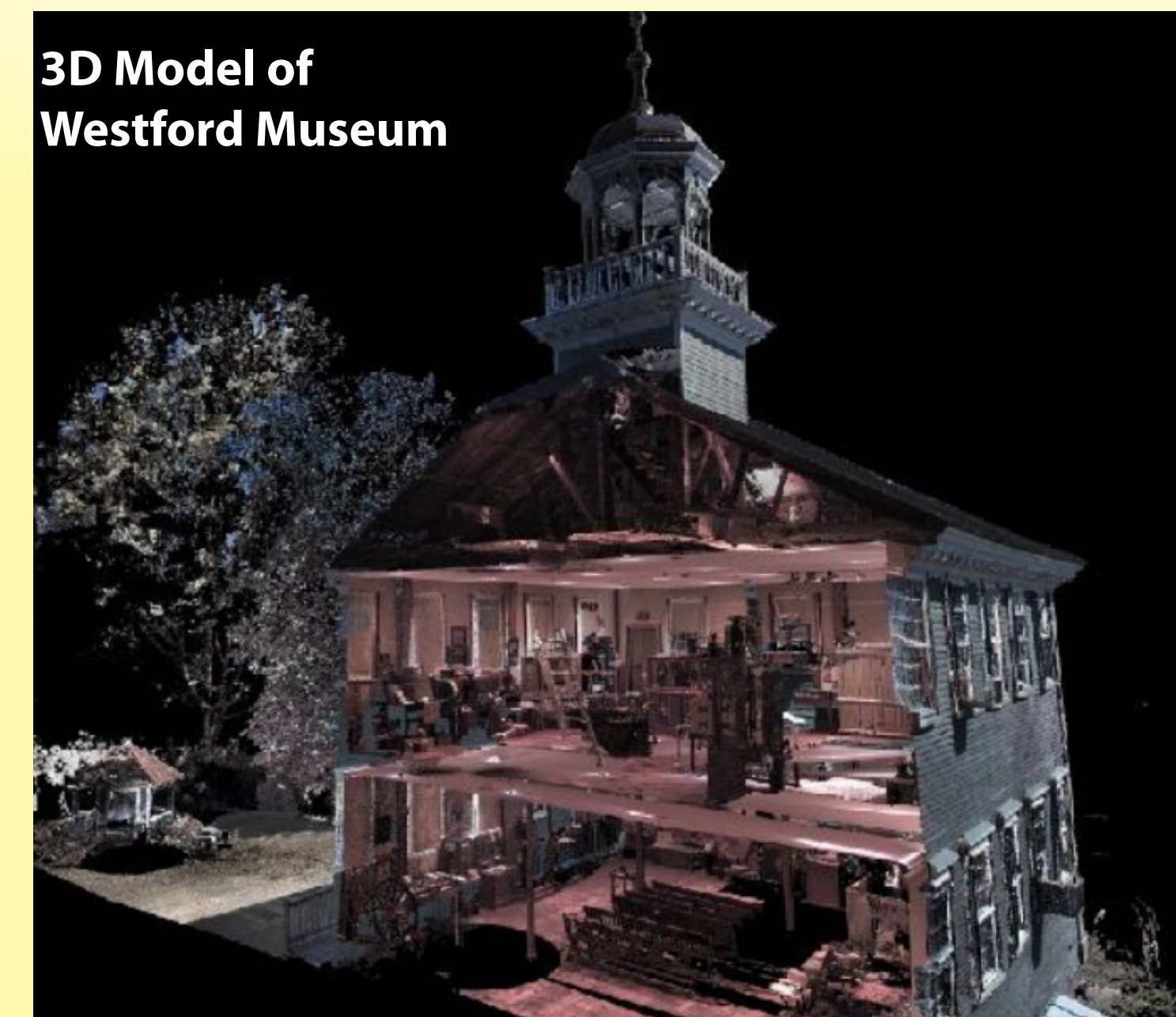
Jun 2012: The Town is auctioning the tax lien on the former **Westford Anodizing** in Graniteville. The circa-1850 structure suffered roof collapse in 2011. If the tax lien is sold, a private party would take ownership of the property, bringing potential for productive reuse of this property. This follows Town work to apply for an unawarded EPA Brownfields grant in 2010 to evaluate environmental conditions on site. Although the grant was not funded, it helped to bring attention to this important property.



Image source: Historical Commission

## Highlighting Westford's Diverse Heritage

### 3D Model of Westford Museum



2012: Digital scanning of the Westford Museum, formerly Westford Academy, is underway, using Light Detection and Ranging technology. The 3D model will be used for school education programs and analysis for future preservation. In addition, it will engage the community by allowing anyone to virtually "visit" the museum.



Posters prepared by Westford Director of Land Use Management Angus Jennings with Christopher Glenn Hayes, MRP Candidate Cornell University

## Supporting Public Archives and J.V. Fletcher Library

**12** **Evaluate Library Expansion:**  
Mar 2012: Annual Town Meeting appropriated \$20,000 from capital monies to support the Library's application for competitive state funds to perform a Feasibility Study evaluating the site and facility needs and options.

**17** **Support the J.V. Fletcher Library Plan:**  
Nov 2011: Library Department began work on its next five-year Strategic Plan, due to the state Board of Library Commissioners on October 1, 2012. To provide input, visit the library or e-mail Ellen Rainville, Library Director at [erainville@westfordma.gov](mailto:erainville@westfordma.gov)



**15** **Train Staff in Historic Record Handling:**  
2010-2011: Consultants working with Town Clerk's office met with every department and assisted in developing recommendations for improved record retention practices.

**16** **Identify Location for Archives Center:**  
The new Town Hall includes improved facilities for long-term storage & access to public records. First Parish Church United is also available as an Archives Center.

J.V. Fletcher Library image source: Westford Museum

